envisaged from the Government is Rs. 8.60 crores, Rs. 8.66 crores and Rs. 5.64 crores respectively. The financial assistance envisaged was over the period from 1994-95 to 1996-97 in addition to reliefs and concessions in terms of capital restructuring with effect from 1.4.94. In the year 1997-98, the proposed budgetary support to BCPL, BIL and SSPL is Rs.4.0 Crores, Rs.3 crores and Rs. 2.00 crores respectively.

(e) At present, there is no proposal to close down any unit. The revival or otherwise of a sick unit would depend on the outcome of the deliberations before the BIFR.

Election Expenditure Limit

5987. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission has written a letter to the Government regarding the election expenditure limit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken a decision thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Election Commission has made a proposal for deletion of Explanation-I under section 77 (1) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and for simultaneous upward revision of ceilings on election expenses.

(c) to (e) This proposal is included amongst the proposals on Electoral Reforms which are being discussed with political parties. It is not possible, at present, to indicate the exact time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard.

[Translation]

Production of Isabgol

5988. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of isabgol in metric tonnes produced annually in the country, State-wise;

(b) the names of the countries to whom the isabgol is being exported presently particularly from Unha mandi of Gujarat;

(c) whether India could emerge as the world largest exporter of isabgol in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Isabgol is mainly cultivated in Gujarat and Rajasthan. In the year 1995-96 Gujarat produced about 21500 tonnes and Rajasthan about 20000 tonnes.

(b) The names of the countries where isabgol is being exported are given in the Statement enclosed. However, mandi-wise export data is not being maintained.

(c) and (d) India is already the largest exporter of isabgol and is also the major supplier in the international market.

Statement

Name of Countries where Isabgol is being Exported

Sl.No.	Name of the Country
1	2
1.	Australia
2.	Afghanistan
3.	Argentina
4.	Baharain IS
5.	Bangladesh
6.	Brazil
7.	Belgium
8.	Canada
9.	Czech Rep.
10.	Chinese Taipai
11.	Chile
12.	Denmark
13.	Djibouty
14.	Ethiopia
15.	Egypt A Rep
16.	France
17.	Finland
18.	German F. Rep.

1	2
19.	Hong Kong
20.	Iran
21.	Italy
22.	Israel
23.	Japan
24.	Jordan
25.	Kenya
26.	Korea Rep.
27.	Kuwait
28.	Malaysia
29.	Mexico
30.	Mozambiqui
31.	Nepal
32.	Netherlands
33.	New Zealand
34.	Nigeria
35.	Oman
36.	Pakistan
37.	Quatar
38.	Russia
39.	Saudia Arab
40.	Spain
41.	Sweden
42.	Switzerland
43.	Singapore
44.	South Africa
45.	Sri Lanka
46.	Thailand
47.	Tanzania Rep.
48.	United Arab Emiratus
49.	United Kingdom
50.	United States of America
51.	Uruguay
52.	Zaire Rep.
53.	Zambia

[English]

Poverty and Unemployment

5989. SHRI N. DENNIS :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects undertaken by the present Government from June 1996 to March 31, 1997 to alleviate poverty and unemployment in the urban and rural areas in the country, State-wise ;

(b) whether the Government have reviewed the progress made so far by each scheme and assessed the benefits of these programmes reached to the urban and rural poor;

(c) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise; and

(d) the details of SC/ST women beneficiaries as compared to general beneficiaries under these programmes and the amount of subsidy provided to them during 1996-97 as compared to 1995-96, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The major programmes/schemes which were under implementation during the period to alleviate poverty and unemployment are (i) Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), (ii) Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP), (iii) Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programmes (PMIUPEP) in the urban areas, (iv) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (v) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), and (vi) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) in the rural areas.

The NRY comprises (a) the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) (b) the scheme of Urban Wage Employment (SUWE) and (c) the Scheme of Housing and Shelter Upgradation (SHASHU). The UBSP has community organisation, mobilisation and empowerment and convergence through sustainable support system. The general objective of PMIUPEP is to attack the several root causes of poverty simultaneously in an integrated manner so as to eradicate poverty from the targetted urban areas by the turn of the century. The programme is applicable only to class II urban agglomerations with a population ranging between 50000 and 1 lakh and to 72 district towns in North - Eastern States, Sikkim, J & K, Himachal Pradesh and Garhwal and Kumaon region of Uttar Pradesh.

IRDP is a credit linked self employment programme, while the JRY and EAS are supplementary wage-employment programmes.

(b) to (d) The programmes are reviewed/monitored by the administrative Ministries implementing them. The details of the physical and financial performance during 1995-96 and 1996-97, state-wise are given in the Statements attached I to IV.